

A PAGE FOR WOMEN AND THE HOME

THE DAILY
SHORT STORYWhere Martha Fitted In.
By VINCENT G. PERRY.
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As a reporter, Martha Fiddas was a failure, everyone admitted it. It was doubtful if Martha believed herself of much value on the Telegram staff. Why she was kept there was more than anyone was willing to say, but some of the boys hinted that it was because she was pretty and Phil Weekes, the city editor, had a weak spot in his heart for all pretty girls. Not that he was a ladies man or a masquerade—it was just a kindly, brotherly interest he seemed to have in them all. It was through him that Martha had been taken on the staff. She had been hired first as a stenographer for the business office, but she made so many blunders that she would have been discharged from the employ of the Telegram if Phil had not suggested that she might prove of value as a reporter.

Her good looks had not been the only thing he had seen. She was sociable, had a winning personality and was a splendid conversationalist—qualities that should have made a successful reporter. The first week was enough to show Phil that there were many things Martha lacked that she should also have had, but he hoped experience would develop them. After the first month he gave up the idea of putting her on assignments that required head work. If there was a story that required data, Martha would be sure to miss it; she never spelled names correctly, always got numbers and even the names of streets wrong, and it by chance she ran across an accident story she always had to go back to the scene of the accident to get the time that it occurred, and other little necessary details that she never remembered to get the first time. It was almost necessary to hire another reporter to do her work after her. Once in a great while she wrote a sentence that didn't have to be re-written. It didn't seem to bother Martha much, though. If she had shown that she knew she wasn't doing her work satisfactorily it would have been much easier for Phil to discharge her, but every time Phil mustered up courage enough to tell her, something would turn up to make him change his mind. Her salary was such a small one it didn't matter much he told himself. When she asked for a raise it would give him an opportunity to let her go. As the weeks went by Martha showed a little improvement—or was it that he got so used to her mistakes and working after her that he imagined she was improving? Phil had a hard time keeping her mistakes out of the way of the managing editor. The managing editor never could put up with a careless reporter, and because Phil knew that he even stole time from his own work to put some touches on Martha's that would pass it, if by chance the editor happened to come across it. He often told himself that he was foolish to do it, for it would have been easier for him if the managing editor had relieved him of the unpleasant duty of giving Martha her notice—but just the same he did it. The Telegram staff was limited to a specified number of reporters, and because of Martha it often required doubling it.

"If you don't get rid of that girl and get somebody you can depend upon in her place, you are going to run up against a tight place some time and get yourself in wrong over it," one of the senior reporters remarked to Phil one day.

"She's all right," Phil answered. "She hasn't fitted in yet."

The tight place came sooner than they expected it. A lot of big things loomed up all at once and every man on the staff was given a night assignment. Phil left a convention meeting for himself to cover. He was the last to leave the reporter's room that night and was just putting on his hat, when the telephone rang. It was the managing editor.

"There is a big meeting in Plattsburg tonight to decide definitely on the electric road. See that it is covered," he ordered.

Phil knew the importance of the story and decided he would have to go to Plattsburg himself. The next car left at eight o'clock, getting him there barely in time for the meeting. The managing editor gave him time to touch the convention. He scanned his assignment book. There was no one else who could cover it. Nothing could be neglected. How about Martha? He would have to chance her, but he hated to think of the story she would turn in the next day. Had she a telephone? She hadn't. She didn't seem to have anything she should have had, he thought angrily. She didn't room very far away; he would have time to call and tell her to cover the convention. He would write out a list of things for her to remember to take notes on and perhaps she would get a half decent story for him to rewrite.

Martha looked her best when she opened her door to his knock. Phil couldn't refrain from standing back to admire her. She looked lovely in a big white apron and white cap.

"Come right in, Phil," Martha invited, as she opened the door wide. The room looked very nice, so Phil didn't refuse. After he had gone into details of just what he wanted her to do and had her write them out, Phil prepared to go.

"Won't you stay and have tea?" Martha asked. "I have a lovely supper all ready—steak, fried onions, scalloped potatoes, homemade tart and the best cup of tea you ever tasted. I'm a handy cook." Phil had been using his nostrils for five minutes, and when Martha enumerated the things he had been smelling, he couldn't refuse her invitation.

"I wouldn't have had time to go home for supper," he said, as he sat down at the snowy white table, "but I hate to be robbing you."

"You are doing nothing of the sort," Martha smiled. "I had supper prepared for two, but the girl I expected telephoned that she couldn't come."

"The ungrateful girl, and a supper

NO CLOUDS AT
THIS SHOWER

By BETTY BROWN.

"Happy the bride the sun shines on," is a staple remark for wedding guests, as inevitable as the ring, or the cake. But most brides would protest if there was not at least one shower—and that a shower bouquet—"the gift of the groom." Through all the varying fashions in flowers the "shower bouquet" has held firmest to popular favor, and is here again presented as a round, rather flat cluster of valley lilies and maiden-hair fern, swathed in lace and dripping silver ribbons and lily sprays.

Like this! Phil exclaimed, as he started on the steak. "Whenever did you learn to cook? This is the finest steak I have had since I left home. Is the supper is like this you can invite me here as often as you like."

"Would you really like to come?" she asked. "I have often been on the point of asking you but I hadn't the courage enough. You have been so kind to me that I wanted to show you that I could do something right. You must think that I can't for I know I have appeared stupid to you. I was never cut out for a reporter or a business woman or anything but just a housekeeper. I think I love cooking and housekeeping. I seem to fit into it."

"You certainly do," he said earnestly. "I'm enthusiastic about your cooking." When he saw how pleased that made her he kept right on with his compliments and he meant most of them, too.

Then next morning when Martha handed in her report of the convention meeting the smile Phil gave her caused her to blush furiously. As he started to read the report he shook his head doubtfully, and then his face brightened as he thought to himself.

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"She certainly doesn't fit into reporting, but I know where she does fit in, and some day I'm going to ask her to change." Martha had been watching his face, and when he looked up and their eyes met she understood.

U. S. Tested
Food Recipes

By MISS BLANCHE PRICE
County Home Demonstration Agent.
Deep Apple Pie—Apples to fill a 2-quart pudding pan.

1-2 c. brown sugar or sugar substitute.
Crust: (This crust may be used for baking powder biscuits):
1 c. cornmeal.
4 t. baking powder.
2 T. fat.
1 c. flour.
3-4 t. salt.
About 1 c. milk.

Method—Cook apples in pudding pan with a little water. When almost done add brown sugar or corn syrup. Stir flour, meal, salt, and baking powder twice. Cut in fat with knife. Add milk slowly, to make very soft dough. Spread over apples, and bake until brown. Cream or milk may be used in serving.

Abbreviations—T, tablespoon; t, teaspoon; c, cup; 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ butter substitute, 1 t. milk.

CARD OF THANKS.
We wish to extend to our many friends of Fairmont our heartfelt thanks for the many acts of kindness shown us during our bereavement of brother and uncle, J. G. Hoover.—Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Hoover and family.—Adv.

Machinery has been invented in Norway for making anchor chains that said to be as good as hand made. The man who is connected with the heavy field artillery is no more likely to be killed than one in the employ of a railroad.

PUTTING HOME INTO ITS SUMMER DRESS

By BIDDY BYE.

Few housekeepers can afford to change their residence with the changing seasons. But few still are the home-makers who cannot afford to change. In some measure, the appearance and atmosphere of the house to harmonize with a rising thermometer. The woman who considers all of the fine details of homemaking realizes the great importance of environment. In the autumn, when the family settles deeply into home life for the winter, she chooses warm fabrics and colors for the curtains, cushions or rugs, and shades the lights with gold and crimson. In the spring, responding to the same instinct for witness, she puts away the heavier furnishings and draperies and dresses her house for coolness, simplicity, quiet and cleanliness.

In many homes the annual spring cleaning drive has been replaced by the transformation from winter to summer house furnishings.

Floors and curtains receive attention first. Heavy rugs are cleaned, rolled on poles and carefully sewed up in cloth covers to keep out the moths. Then they are stored away in the garret or locker. In their place, lightweight strips of rag-rug, matting or grass carpeting are put down. Some housekeepers who can afford it, cover their heavy carpets and rugs with smoothly tacked linen, denim or co-vert cloth, as furnishing a cool and dust-resisting surface.

This is the time to take down dust, and pack away the heavy inner window hangings, and to launder and replace the white sash curtains. Sometimes a single hanging of bright flowered cretonne, chintz or the lovely ivory and blue Japanese toweling is hung above the sheer white curtains. Lamp shades, table and cushion covers and all the textiles used in small accessories should be of the same material as the window hangings.

If the furniture is of the over-stuffed or upholstered style, slip-covers of cretonne or chintz are the proper as well as the comfortable and sanitary thing.

HEALTH HINTS

The Children's Year celebration brings up some important points to be remembered in nursing the baby.

It is always wise to make nursing as easy as possible for the mother and to give her opportunities for rest. Therefore, the sooner the baby is satisfied and gaining on three-hour or even four-hour intervals the better.

Convenient hours for nursing are as follows:

(1) Seven nursings in 24 hours: 6 a. m., 9 a. m., 12 noon, 3 p. m., 6 p. m., 9 or 10 p. m., and once during the night.

(2) Six nursings in 24 hours: 6 a. m., 9 a. m., 12 noon, 3 p. m., 6 p. m., 9 or 10 p. m., and once during the night.

(3) Five nursings in 24 hours: 6 a. m., 10 a. m., 2 p. m., 6 p. m., 10 p. m., or later.

The baby should be offered cooled boiled water between feedings, especially during the hot weather.

The length of time for a nursing varies with the individual and the breast. The average infant rarely requires longer than 15 minutes. The important point is to satisfy the baby. If there is any doubt, let it nurse longer, but not more than 20 minutes. If it is not satisfied after 20 minutes, consult a physician.

It is customary to nurse only one breast at each feeding and to use them alternately. If, however, the baby does not get enough from one breast, give it both.

Baby's Bath.
Mrs. R. A. asks: "How often should a young baby be bathed?"
At least once a day and oftener in warm weather, the additional ones being merely sponge baths.

Why Shamed by Blotchy Skin

If you are a sufferer from blemishes or unsightly pimply skin, you know just what it means to have that humiliating, embarrassing feeling about meeting strangers and offending friends. Many a time you have looked into the mirror and wished that your skin would be like other people's that you know, "without a blemish." This wish can be yours for the asking. If you go to the drugist and procure a bottle of D. D. D., the greatest of all skin remedies, apply it according to directions, in a short time your skin will be as soft as velvet.

Come in and ask for a bottle today on our money-back guarantee. Ask also for our D. D. D. Soap, that keeps the skin healthy.

For 15 Years the Standard Skin Remedy

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For Burning Eczema

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DOINGS OF THE DUFFS—(THE TOREADOR WAS LED FROM THE RING.)—BY ALLMAN.

